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—Mr. Alfred R. Wallace, the distinguished English naturalist, is to give a course of eight lectures at the Lowell Institute, Boston, Mass., beginning in November next.

—Mr. C. W. Peach, so well known as a zealous field naturalist and collector of fossils, whose name appeared so often in Gosse's sea-side books, died in March.

—Dr. T. Spencer Cobbold, well known for his work on parasitic worms, died in London in March, aged fifty-seven.

—The eminent botanist of Liège, Professor C. J. E. Morren, died late in February at the age of fifty-three years.

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PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—In addition to the list of papers read at the Washington meeting the following were presented April 21st and 22d:

On color contrast. By Ogden N. Rood.

Classification of the Cambrian system of North America (by invitation). By Chas. D. Walcott.

Crystallization of platinum by means of the electric discharge in vacuo. By A. W. Wright.

The Stomatopoda of the "Challenger" collection. By W. K. Brooks.

Budding in the Tunicata. By W. K. Brooks.

Effect of magnetization on the electrical resistance of metals. By A. W. Wright.

On a proposed expedition into the interior of Greenland during the present summer with Disco as a base (by invitation). By R. E. Peary, U. S. N.

At an evening meeting of the academy the Henry Draper medal was for the first time awarded to Professor S. P. Langley for his researches on solar physics. The Watson medal, with an honorarium of one hundred dollars, was given to Dr. B. A. Gould as a recognition of his services to astronomy in founding and conducting the Cordova observatory. At the same meeting a biographical notice of the late Professor Arnold Guyot, prepared by Professor J. D. Dana, was presented, and a similar notice of the late Professor John W. Draper was read by Professor Barker.

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON, March 6.—Communications: Dr. George Vasey, New and recent species of North American grasses; Mr. Charles Hallock, Hyper-instinct of animals; Dr. W. S. Barnard, Exhibition of a fungus, with remarks; Dr. H. G. Beyer, U. S. N., Remarks on antipyretics.

March 20.—Communications: Dr. D. E. Salmon and Dr. Th. Smith, Notes on some biological analyses of Potomac drinking-water; Dr. H. G. Beyer, U. S. N., Remarks on antipyretics; Dr. W. S. Barnard, Exhibition of a fungus, with remarks; Mr. F. H.

Knowlton, Additions to and changes in the Flora Columbiana for 1885.

April 3.—Communications: Dr. Frank Baker and Mr. J. L. Wortman, Recent investigations into the mechanism of the elbow-joint; Mr. J. B. Smith, Some peculiar secondary sexual characters in the Deltoids, and their supposed function; Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Contributions to North American mammalogy—III. Description of a new sub-species of a gray squirrel; Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, U. S. A., Some early and as yet unpublished drawings of Audubon.

April 17.—Communications: Dr. Theo. Gill, The characteristics and families of iniomous fishes; Mr. F. A. Lucas, Notes on the vertebræ of *Amphiuma*, *Siren* and *Menopoma*; Mr. Frederick True, 1. Exhibition of a wood hare with abnormal growth of fur; 2. Some distinctive cranial characters of the Canadian lynx; Mr. John B. Smith, Ants' nests and their inhabitants.

May 1.—Communications: Dr. R. E. C. Stearns, Instances of the effect of musical sounds on animals; Dr. John A. Ryder, The evolution of the mammalian placenta; Dr. T. H. Bean, The trout of North America, with exhibition of specimens; Mr. W. H. Dall, 1. On the attachment of *Lingula*, with exhibition of specimens; 2. On the divisions of the genus *Pecten*.

NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, March 15, 1886.—Recent progress in chemistry, by Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, of Trinity College, Hartford, Conn.

March 22.—Significance of flora to the Iroquois (with grammatical notes), by Mrs. Erminnie A. Smith.

March 29.—Theories concerning the protective influence of mitigated virus, by Mr. Lucius Pitkin.

April 5.—Geological notes in Western Virginia, North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee (illustrated with specimens), by Dr. N. L. Britton.

April 19.—Mineralogical notes (*a*, On the hardness of a Brazilian diamond; *b*, A fifth mass of meteoric iron from Augusta county, Va.; *c*, Asteriation in garnet), by Mr. Geo. F. Kunz; Minerals of Staten Island, by Mr. B. B. Chamberlin.

April 26.—On the variation of decomposition in iron pyrites, its cause, and its relation to density, by Dr. Alexis A. Julien.

May 3.—Review of the fossil fishes of North America, with notice of some new species, illustrated with specimens and lantern views, by Dr. J. S. Newberry.

BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY, March 17, 1886.—Dr. C. C. Abbot described the habits of the white-footed mouse; Professor Wm. Trelease read a paper on the North American species of *Thalictrum* (meadow rue); Professor W. T. Sedgwick

exhibited some new and simple forms of apparatus in use in the biological laboratory of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

April 7.—Dr. R. R. Andrews read a paper on the development of the teeth (illustrated by the stereopticon); Dr. S. Kneeland showed some metallic tubes from a girdle found on an Indian skeleton at Fall river—the so-called “Skeleton in Armor;” and Mr. S. H. Scudder spoke of the mode of life of an ancient beetle.

April 21.—Mr. Percival Lowell read a paper on the Korean language; and Professor A. Hyatt showed and explained Haeckel’s models of the development of a vertebrate (*Amphioxus*).

May 5.—The annual meeting was held on this date. Business: Annual reports of the curator, secretary, and treasurer, on the condition and work of the society; report of the committee on the Walker prize for 1886; election of officers for 1886–7. Communication: Dr. G. L. Goodale read a paper upon plasmolysis.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB, March 10, 1886.—Mr. J. Rayner Edmands read a paper entitled “A day on Flume mountain and a night in the wilderness;” Mr. S. H. Scudder made some remarks on the progress of the State topographical survey; Mr. Rosewell B. Lawrence exhibited a new map of Middlesex Fells, intended to show wood-roads and foot-paths. The following subject was presented for discussion: What should be done by or for persons detained (possibly lost or injured) among woods and mountains?

March 23.—Mr. S. H. Scudder occupied the evening with an account of his three months’ adventures by stage, canoe and ox-cart with an eclipse party in the Winnepeg and Saskatchewan country a quarter of a century ago.

April 14.—A paper by Professor A. S. Packard, entitled “Over the Mexican plateau on a diligence,” was read by Mr. F. W. Freeborn; Professor E. C. Pickering presented for discussion plans for a summer school in geodesy and topography.

April 20.—A semi-social meeting was held from 7.30 to 10.30. During the evening Rev. John Worcester showed fifty lantern views of scenery on the Great Range.